



TOWN OF SURFSIDE BEACH
115 US Highway 17 North, Surfside Beach, SC 29575
www.surfsidebeach.org
☎ 843.913.6111 ☎ 843.238.5432

**SURFSIDE BEACH TOWN COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING AGENDA
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2013 ♦ 6:30 P.M.**

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – Mayor Douglas F. Samples
2. **INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – Rev. Shane Johnson, Solid Rock Baptist Church
3. **AGENDA APPROVAL**
4. **MINUTES APPROVAL** - Regular Meeting August 27, 2013
5. **PUBLIC COMMENTS – Agenda Items Only.** (3-minutes per speaker)
6. **COMMUNICATIONS**
 - A. Service Awards – Life Saving Rescue
 - B. Department Reports
 - i. Fire
 - ii. Planning, Building & Zoning
 - ii. Police
 - C. Administrator's Report
 - i. Update on Current Events
 - ii. Consensus Item – FY2014-2015 Budget Retreat Dates
7. **BUSINESS**
 - A. Welcome Sign at Melody Lane, Administrator Fellner
 - B. Public Works – Capital Replacement, Administrator Fellner
 - C. Committee Appointment – Construction Board of Adjustment and Appeals, David Morrison, Councilmember Smith (may be deferred until after executive session)
8. **DISCUSSION** – Any matters of concern or information to be discussed by Town Council.
9. **PUBLIC COMMENTS – General Comments.** (5-minutes per speaker)
10. **COUNCIL COMMENTS**
11. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**
 - A. Pursuant to FOIA §30-4-70(a)(1) to discuss employment, appointment, compensation, promotion, demotion, discipline, or release of an employee and to discuss the appointment of a person to a public body (see Business Item 7.B.)
12. **ADJOURNMENT**



**SURFSIDE BEACH TOWN COUNCIL
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 10, 2013 ♦ 6:30 P.M.
TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

1. CALL TO ORDER.

Mayor Samples called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Mayor Samples, Mayor Pro Tempore Mabry, and Councilmembers Dodge, Johnson, Smith, and Stevens were in attendance. Councilmember Kohlmann was out of town. A quorum was present. Others present: Town Administrator Fellner; Fire Chief Cimini; Police Captain Miller; Recreation Supervisor Ellis, and Town Clerk Herrmann.

Mayor Samples announced that a 9/11 Memorial Service would be held tomorrow morning at 8:00 a.m. at the fire station. Everyone was invited to attend.

2. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

Reverend Shane Johnson from Solid Rock Baptist Church gave the invocation. Mayor Samples lead the Pledge.

3. AGENDA APPROVAL.

Mr. Smith moved to approve the agenda. Mr. Stevens seconded. All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**

4. MINUTES APPROVAL.

Mr. Stevens moved to approve the minutes of the August 27, 2013 meeting as submitted. Ms. Mabry seconded. All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS – Agenda Items (3 minutes.)

"Shelby Smith, 911 Cedar Drive North, Surfside Beach. Mr. Mayor, Council, I'd like to say a few words about the welcome signs on Highway 17 Business and Melody Lane, as well as the other one. For many years, I felt our town should convey a more attractive, more distinctive welcome to motorists entering Surfside Beach on Highway 17 Business. I think our north and south welcome signs need a significant upgrade, especially with the 50th Anniversary in 2014. On May 6th, Horry Georgetown Technical College made a [sic] excellent presentation for the Keep Surfside Beach Beautiful committee and town leaders. Many excellent ideas regarding signage, branding, website, retailing, and promotion for Surfside Beach were made by three teams of students with a general consensus best choice being team two. Great job; great job and appreciated by all. In addition, I would like to suggest that the town obtain some additional ideas and designs on our welcome signs. All along the Grand Strand, neighborhoods and business areas proudly have distinctive, attractive entrance signs. Surfside Beach is family beach, 2 mile neighborhood and business township with 4,000 residents and many more thousands desirable tourists. Surfside Beach deserves distinctive welcome signs to greet 40,000 plus cars every day making that excellent first impression, and repeat impression, over and over for our town. All businesses and residents and tourists benefit from this excellent image. Surfside Beach is special, and I think motorists can see this as they enter our town. The cost of this asset for Surfside Beach may be more than the \$13,000 being discussed. A larger, more distinctive, more attractive sign with appropriate landscaping is well worth it. Please consider some higher priced options; \$20- to \$25-thousand over a couple of dozen years is 20 bucks a week. Construction and materials also make a lasting impression. Wood is higher maintenance; weathers rough; attracts mold and insects; fades from the sun. Stone and brick and steel are more attractive and distinctive; much stronger; require little maintenance, so why not check some other options. Internet has many entrance and welcome sign examples. Here on the Grand Strand we also have many great examples in place. Next week I would

57 like to present a couple of designs to town administrator Micki Fellner. Whatever the approach to
58 signage, lighting is helpful (*time ended*), as well as mulching, and permanent edging on these, as well.
59 Thank you very much.”

60
61 **6. COMMUNICATIONS.**

62
63 **A. Service Awards – Life Saving Rescue.**

64
65 Chief Cimini explained that it was not that often that police and fire from the surrounding
66 community worked together as they did in this event. He asked Horry County Fire Rescue Chiefs Crosby
67 and Beans, along with Horry County Police Captain Wingard to join him at the front. He asked the clerk to
68 read the incident report into the record:
69

70 Report on Incident #412, 417 Seaside Drive South, Surfside Beach, South
71 Carolina. On the evening of July 12, 2013 Surfside Beach Fire units (SBFD),
72 Horry County Fire Rescue Medic 31 (HCFR), Surfside Police Department
73 (SBPD) and Horry County Police Department (HCPD) were dispatched to a
74 swimmer in distress. On arrival personnel were told that a 14 year old male had
75 gone under the water and had not been seen since. Personnel from SBFD,
76 SBPD, and HCFR Medic 31 began a visual search of the ocean up and down the
77 beach from the last known location of the swimmer. The surf was extremely
78 rough and it was almost impossible to launch the one jet ski that SBPD had.
79 Many attempts were made with personnel being beaten badly by the heavy
80 waves. SBPD Sergeant Don Sliker was able to clear the waves and begin his
81 search only to be forced back in due to the heavy surf conditions. Acting
82 Engineer Michael Medeiros organized a daisy chain of personnel and civilians in
83 an attempt to find the young man. The crews and several unknown civilians in
84 the daisy chain were near exhaustion after approximately 15 to 20 minutes in the
85 rough surf and exited the ocean. Engineer Medeiros who was the end person in
86 the ocean on the first daisy chain reorganized a second chain in an attempt to
87 find the missing swimmer. Just as they were going to re-enter the water the
88 victim seemed to pop up in the surf about 20 yards off shore, Engineer Medeiros,
89 SBPD Sergeant Sliker, and HCPD Officer Brad Boggs entered the ocean to grab
90 the victim. All were hit by heavy waves and went under the surf. EMT Michael
91 Miller, seeing the crew go under, entered the surf to assist the officers with
92 bringing the victim to shore. The personnel who had taken hold of the victim
93 somehow were able to keep hold of the victim and brought him to shore. EMT
94 Michael Miller began CPR and life saving procedures as soon as they reached
95 shore. The victim was transported to the hospital, while en-route to the hospital
96 the medical crew was able to get a pulse. The patient was then transported to
97 MUSC (Medical University of South Carolina) where he was admitted.
98 Unfortunately, he passed away approximately six weeks after the rescue;
99 however, the family was able to be with him while the hospital did everything they
100 could to return him to them. The family had time to be with their loved one and
101 have closure to this unfortunate accident. The SBFD, SBPD, HCFR Medic 31
102 and HCPD personnel are to be commended for their actions. The victim was
103 under the water for over 30 minutes, the efforts of the crews were *outstanding* in
104 their commitment to continue the search under such extreme conditions even
105 when it appeared that the individual had drown.
106

107 Mayor Samples joined Chief Cimini for the presentations. Chief Cimini said this particular
108 incident had two incident commanders: Surfside Beach Police Captain Arron Miller, and Fire Captain
109 Mike Hans, both of whom were presented Meritorious Service certificates. Others honored with
110 Meritorious Service certificates were SBPD Sergeant Lee Black; SBPD Officer Julian Ziolkowski; SBPD
111 Officer Chris King; SBPD Officer Gilbert Williams; SBPD Officer Nicole Solorzano; Ryan Headley; Chris
112 Peterson; Kevin McLean; Kristi Briggs, who works SBPD dispatch; SBFD Captain Pat McElroy; SBFD

113 Lieutenant Lavaughn Tuck; Senior Engineer Karl Marzoff; Engineer Richard Loskill; Firefighter Sean
114 Carter; Firefighter Wayne Huggins; Firefighter Marty Morris, and Fire Fighter James Albright.
115

116 Chief Cimini and Mayor Samples presented Live Saving Awards to Horry County Fire Rescue
117 Medic 31 EMT Michael Miller; Acting Engineer Michael Medeiros, who works full time with Horry County
118 and part time with the Town of Surfside Beach; Surfside Beach Police Sergeant Don Sliker, and Horry
119 County Police Officer Brad Boggs. Mr. Junius Frederick, manager-regional business development,
120 LifeNet South Carolina, the area helicopter emergency medical service, presented numbered coins to the
121 Life Saving Award recipients. The coins are referred to as "ICE" coins, i.e. individuals of excellence,
122 along with personal plaques documenting the respective awards. Permanent recognition plaques will be
123 hung at Waccamaw and Grand Strand hospitals so the community will know of their extraordinary efforts.
124 Any person may be nominated for an ICE award by contacting him.
125

126 Chief Cimini said a thank you card was received from the victim's mother that expressed her
127 gratitude for the efforts of everyone involved. (*There was applause throughout presentations and an*
128 *extended standing ovation at the end.*)
129

130 Mayor Samples called recess at 6:55 p.m. so the recipients could be thanked, and reconvened
131 the meeting at 7:00 p.m.
132

133 **B. Department Reports.**

134 **iii. Fire.**

135
136 Chief Cimini presented the written report, a copy of which is on file. He thanked Mayor Samples
137 for mentioning the 9/11 Ceremony, noting that event had the single largest lost of firefighters lives in the
138 history of the country; 343 firefighters died, in addition to thousands of civilians. Fire Prevention Month
139 begins October 1 and runs throughout the month. There were 90 runs during the month of August; no
140 dollar loss due to fire; 35 fire prevention activities, including 3 new license inspections, 12 pending re-
141 inspections, 10 public education events, 1 new plan review, and 9 fire station visits. Fire Prevention
142 Week Open House is Saturday, October 12 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Fire engine rides, movies,
143 refreshments, and other activities will occur during the day. Volunteer and career staff completed 278.5
144 hours of training and 146.55 hours were spent responding to calls during August. Career personnel
145 completed an additional 12 hours of online training. There are four career and five volunteers in the first
146 responder medical training class who will be national registered first responders upon completion. Public
147 education opportunities are increasing, because there are many groups asking to visit the fire station and
148 asking fire staff to attend outside functions like Jason's House and the senior citizens meetings. Training
149 officer, Captain Prentiss, is developing a new program called "Neighbors Saving Neighbors," which
150 should begin in November. The benefit to town residents include CPR training, basic first aid, and how to
151 assess an individual that is having a medical issue. Mayor Samples and he had discussed a junior
152 firefighter programs some time ago. Chief Cimini said the legalities have been cleared and he hoped a
153 junior firefighter program could be developed and presented in the near future. The goal was to get
154 young people involved at the fire house and to help keep them out of trouble. After the drowning in July,
155 he realized there was no back-up available, and the area fell short with its water rescue ability. Many
156 phone calls were made during the incident to ask for assistance and no one came. The result was that a
157 Chief Cimini and Captain Prentiss met with other battalion chiefs in Horry County to start the "Coastal
158 Water Rescue Unit" that will provide assistance to other communities when the need arises. The town's
159 fire department now has 14 people certified in water rescue. Chief Cimini attended the International
160 Association of Fire Chiefs conference and to complete continuing education training, and he also
161 attended the Horry Georgetown Chiefs meeting. The master plan in the department is moving along with
162 the end of the month as the target date for completion and delivery to the town administrator for approval
163 and distribution to Town Council. Over the past several months, Chief Keziah and he had been
164 discussing how to relieve the town's police officers from traffic duty at fire incidents or emergencies that
165 usually require at least two police cars. A "Volunteer Fire-Police" program was being investigated that
166 would train volunteers to work those scenes.
167
168

169 Mr. Smith thanked Chief Cimini, the fire department and the police departments for their
170 cooperation, which was demonstrated by having the various departments attending the meeting. He
171 thought it was amazing that Horry County and Surfside Beach had that level of cooperation. Chief Cimini
172 said the town's police and fire departments had been working extremely well together, and held regular
173 joint meetings and training to strengthen their bonds.
174

175 Mayor Samples said for the record "that Ms. Kohlmann was not present, because she was in New
176 York assisting with the 9/11 Memorial Service."
177

178 **ii. Planning, Building & Zoning.**
179

180 Ms. Morris was out of town at training. Ms. Fellner presented the written report, a copy of which
181 is on file. She noted that 107 permits were issued in August compared to 78 during August 2012; 66
182 inspections were performed; 28 business licenses were issued; there were 3 stormwater, 2 commercial
183 and 20 residential plan reviews. Sean Boysel obtained his permit technician certification. All staff
184 members in the department are now certified in their required areas. Staff and the public works director
185 were working on the comprehensive planting plan for Ocean Boulevard. As previously discussed, the
186 plans will be presented to Town Council for approval prior to any work being performed, and plantings will
187 be done in phases. A workshop to discuss the draft comprehensive plan was scheduled for Thursday,
188 October 3, 2013 at 5:30 p.m. in Council Chambers to explain the importance of the plan and to answer
189 questions the public may have about the proposed plan. There will be a PowerPoint presentation and
190 time allotted for questions and answers. Everyone is invited to attend.
191

192 **ii. Police.**
193

194 Chief Keziah was out of town. Captain Miller presented the written report, a copy of which is on
195 file. He thanked Chief Keziah and Chief Cimini for recognizing members of the police department. It was
196 a humbling experience to work alongside the town's fire staff and the county employees. Captain Miller
197 noted that the last reporting period was still busy. There was a 39-percent increase in arrests and
198 citations. There were probably several reasons, but one in particular was the increase in citations might
199 be because this was the first full month that the drug paraphernalia ordinance was in effect. There were a
200 good number of citations written to enforce that ordinance. There were two incidents with reportable
201 levels of force. No officers or suspects were injured. On August 2nd and August 5th, officers department
202 wide attended and completed the mandatory annual blood borne pathogens training through the fire
203 department. Captain Miller thanked Chief Cimini and his staff for setting up the training. Chief Keziah
204 attended a hurricane preparedness table top exercise on August 14th held in Lake City. Police, fire, public
205 works and utility agencies from several regions joined together to prepare for a hurricane disaster.
206 August 26th and 27th, communications officer Kristi Miller attended a class that certified her as a field
207 trainer for new dispatchers. Training dispatchers was a long, difficult process that could take several
208 months. The certification sets up a standard by which every new dispatcher will be trained to insure
209 consistency. This is the first time the town has had a certified field trainer for dispatch. August 28th
210 through the 30th, communication supervisor Becky Small attended a child safety seat installation
211 certification class that was free; this was another service the department offered the public. Chief Keziah
212 and Lieutenant Hofmann attended a CPTED (Crime Prevention through Environmental Design) national
213 certification course from August 27th through 29th that trains officers how to survey existing structures and
214 building plans for ways to reduce crime, i.e. by adjusting lighting, landscaping, or design features. The
215 department will offer security surveys (on-site reviews) to any business, homeowner, or property owner
216 that will identify actions they can take to reduce crimes and increase safety. Sergeant Bailey continues to
217 work with the United States Marshall's Task Force; 25 outstanding warrants were served last month, and
218 over \$9,000 was collected in unrecovered bonds and fines. The first citizens police academy was
219 concluded on August 17th. Captain Miller said in his 15 years of law enforcement this was one of the
220 most exciting and fun things in which he participated. Participants got to drive police cars; shoot on a
221 simulator, and see field sobriety tests. He commended Lieutenant Hofmann for his contributions and
222 work. Captain Miller thanked Town Council for its support and allowing that program to become a reality.
223 The next academy will be after the first of the year. He encouraged everyone to attend. Captain Miller
224 said due to the department's participation in the 15th Circuit Law Enforcement Network, the department

225 was awarded a new digital radar unit that could be used in existing and new patrol fleet. The unit was
226 valued at \$2,000, and was another way that the town's participation in the traffic checkpoints and network
227 pays off. The town will host a traffic safety checkpoint in Surfside Beach on September 20th.
228

229 Mr. Smith asked if Captain Miller knew the status of the cameras. Captain Miller said the
230 infrastructure was being laid; the electrical contractor and the contractor to climb the tower were
231 identified. Clearance was given by Grand Strand Water and Sewer Authority for the tower mounting of
232 the central relay. Santee Cooper also gave approval for two locations that the town will tap into. Santee
233 Cooper was very interested in the project; agreements have been executed with them. Wildfire
234 Communications is completing the engineering and then cameras will be installed. Captain Miller said it
235 is "just right around the corner."
236

237 Mr. Stevens said there was a press release about a drug bust. He commended the police
238 department for getting the drugs off the streets to keep our kids safe. He understood it was just a simple
239 traffic stop, but they were aware of what was going on and did their work. Captain Miller said thank you; it
240 was Corporal Julian Ziolkowski that did that stop on Thursday. The following Monday, he responded to
241 another call and seized an additional two pounds of marijuana. Mr. Stevens said he was looking forward
242 to the next police academy.
243

244 **C. Administrator's Report – Update on Current Events.**

245 **i. Update on Current Events.**

246 Ms. Fellner mentioned that staff expected to present Harbor Lights information at this meeting,
247 but they were still waiting for a copy of the two year warranty from the developer. She hoped that would
248 be delivered soon, and the presentation could be made to Town Council at the first meeting in October.
249 At the last meeting, the sanitation fee numbers presented by finance and public works did not agree. It
250 was confirmed that the reason was that finance reports were from the first to the last day of the month;
251 public works reports from the 15th of the month to the 14th. Information was being prepared for a
252 workshop on October 22nd regarding the town retention ponds. Dr. Libes has confirmed that she will
253 attend. The stormwater committee would be invited. Other professionals were invited, but have yet to
254 reply. The intent is that Town Council would have enough information to have second reading on the
255 proposed ordinance 13-0756 regarding stormwater retention and allowable uses.
256
257
258

259 Mayor Samples asked that second reading be presented at the next meeting after the workshop
260 so that councilmembers will have time to consider the information that they receive. Mr. Johnson said
261 agreed; some other members indicated agreement.
262

263 Ms. Fellner said the Field 2 outfield fencing replacement was completed; \$5,000 was budgeted
264 and the final cost was just under \$3,000. The question was asked at the last meeting as to whether there
265 was a use restriction on the land at Huckabee Complex. The answer was yes. There is a Limitation of
266 Use that the property may not be converted to other than outdoor public recreational uses whether by
267 transfer, sale or in any other manner without the express written approval of the South Carolina
268 Department of Parks, Recreation, and Tourism Commission (SCPRT.) SCPRT shall approve such
269 conversion only if it finds that conversion to be in accord with the then existing comprehensive statewide
270 outdoor recreation plan, and only upon such conditions as it deems necessary to assure the substitution
271 of other recreation properties of at least equal fair market value and of reasonably equivalent usefulness.
272 Ms. Fellner said this was the same restriction that was on the property at the library. She thought several
273 would remember the difficulty in getting that property signed off by the Department of Interior. It could be
274 done, but the town needed to have a really good reason. The files appeared to be incomplete regarding
275 the \$60,000 used to purchase a portion of Huckabee. It seemed that the entire complex should not be
276 encumbered for such a small amount. Attorney Battle was contacted about the situation, and she would
277 speak with him again to be sure he understood the full details. SCPRT has also been contacted to
278 discuss the amounts of money, because it appeared based on from information in file that for \$2,043 they
279 encumbered a 10 acre property. The only money received after that was \$19,000; unless somehow the
280 \$60,000 that was applied to one parcel.

281
282 Mayor Samples asked Ms. Fellner to advise council when additional information was obtained. It
283 was obvious that she was trying to resolve the questions.

284
285 **ii. Consensus Item.**

286
287 Ms. Fellner asked Town Council for consensus to hold the budget retreat on April 30th and May
288 1st, 2014 for Fiscal Year 2014-2015. Seated councilmembers and members-elect would be invited to
289 attend and ask questions. In this way, new councilmembers would be prepared to vote on the proposed
290 budget at the first meeting in May, which is the 13, 2014.

291
292 Mr. Johnson asked which days were proposed. Ms. Fellner said Wednesday and Thursday. A
293 calendar was included in the package; the dates were highlighted in yellow. The remainder of that
294 calendar was for staff preparation.

295
296 Mr. Smith thought that even though members-elect would attend the budget workshop, it would
297 be a little bit much to ask them to vote on a first reading during their first meeting. He suggested that the
298 first reading be held on May 27, which would be the second meeting in May. Even though they might
299 attend the budget workshop, he said you're still not quite ready at that first meeting, and he remembered
300 his first meeting. There were things that came up that he really was not prepared for even though he
301 knew about them. He just did not have enough back ground or enough feeling about it. So, he thought
302 they should be given at least two weeks after being seated before voting on something like the budget.

303
304 Mayor Samples appreciated Mr. Smith's comments. A special meeting could be called, if
305 necessary. He had no problem delaying first reading to May 27th, 2014. All of the schedule could be
306 changed by the time the dates arrive. In terms of the timeline for staff purposes, in particular, because
307 that was what 80-percent of the schedule was about, he believed council generally agreed.

308
309 Mr. Smith said yes.

310
311 Mayor Samples asked if any councilmember disagreed. There were no objections. Mayor
312 Samples said there was a "short consensus," and asked what else needed to be decided at this meeting.
313 Ms. Fellner said she wanted to know if those two days, April 30, 2014 and May 1, 2014 were acceptable
314 to Town Council for the budget workshop to be held in chambers. **There were no objections to the**
315 **April 30, 2014 and May 1, 2014 budget workshop dates.**

316
317 Ms. Mabry asked how much it cost to travel to Pinopolis. Ms. Fellner said a couple of thousand
318 dollars, plus gas. Ms. Mabry asked how many budget meetings were held last year. Ms. Fellner said it
319 was somewhere between nine and 12 meetings. Ms. Mabry was concerned, because the second day of
320 the budget retreat last year a quorum was not present. She wondered if it would be more efficient
321 money-wise and staff time-wise, if council went to Pinopolis, and asked Ms. Fellner her opinion. Ms.
322 Fellner said there was no money in the budget to travel. Ms. Mabry knew that it was not in the budget;
323 she also knew that it was expensive to have people sit around half and full days and not be able to do
324 their work. Ms. Fellner said yes, ma'am. Ms. Mabry said sometimes expensive is the cost of working
325 efficiently and is a big savings for the town.

326
327 Mayor Samples said for the record, "In response to that, I would like to know how much overtime
328 the town spent for people to be sitting in this room during budget preparation." Ms. Fellner said they were
329 exempt; there was no overtime. Mayor Samples said okay. He did not have a problem going to
330 Pinopolis, but to make an argument that the town would save money was not real. The employees were
331 exempt; they were salaried, they get paid what they get paid.

332
333 Ms. Mabry said yes, the employees were exempt in their pay, but they were not working for the
334 town while they were sitting in chambers; not doing their jobs out in the town. Even though that was an
335 expense that would be paid either way, there was still 8, 9, to 12 meetings on the budget. Ms. Mabry felt

336 like a lot of that could be condensed. She had no problem staying in town, but she certainly would want
337 to be assured that everyone would show up for the workshop.
338

339 Mr. Johnson agreed with Ms. Mabry. Every time council has gone to Pinopolis to a budget
340 retreat, they had never had to come back and go over the budget again, and again, and again, and again
341 [sic.] Town Council sat down while they were in Pinopolis and hammered things out. It was just a much
342 better environment. There probably were not five town residents in chambers during the entire budget
343 retreat. People bring up the comment that by taking the workshop out of town, you do not make it
344 accessible for residents. When it is held in town, they did not show up. That was the bottom line. Town
345 Council goes to Pinopolis and works very hard to get things done. Mr. Johnson did not understand the
346 logic in not wanting to go out of town. He guaranteed that the town would save money.
347

348 Mr. Stevens said with respect to those who had already spoken that he preferred to hold the
349 workshop in town. It was totally transparent; totally accountable to the people who elected them. He saw
350 no sense in spending money; paying councilmembers a per diem, or gas reimbursement when the
351 workshop could be held in chambers. In his opinion, it was a waste of money to go out of town.
352

353 Ms. Dodge said the first year she served on council they went to Pinopolis, and they did work
354 hard, and they worked well. It cost them money to go there. Staff was on duty right here; there was a
355 place to hold the workshop, and they did not have to pay any extra for travel. She said the workshop
356 should be held here. The people need to see the councilmembers with their noses to the grindstone, and
357 whether or not they were doing the right thing, and they could tell them very quickly, if they were not.
358

359 Mr. Smith said he liked it both ways; actually, he thought council got more done in a shorter time
360 by being out of town, because they did not have to go to lunch and be late back for the meeting. They
361 concentrate their time while they were there, and so he thought they got more in that compressed amount
362 of time in terms of doing the budget. The only downside that he saw to going out of town was that the
363 councilmembers-elect might not be able to go. That was the advantage to staying in town, so the
364 members-elect could attend. Mr. Smith said his preference would be out of town, but the members-elect
365 should be considered.
366

367 Mayor Samples said there was no question that a lot of time was spent this year going over,
368 perhaps, the same ground more than once. In the end, the general fund was balanced, and the projected
369 deficit of all funds was much smaller that it had been in a very, very long time where much of those
370 budgets were adopted at Pinopolis. In his opinion, those presentations that were made after Mayor
371 Hyman stepped down were amateurish at best, and council was not engaged as they should have been.
372 Mayor Samples said that was his opinion and he would take it with him until the end. Doing budget work
373 was hard. Whether it was done at Pinopolis or it was done here, mattered not to him. It was the work.
374 He did not know whether a consensus could be reached at this meeting, and asked if there was
375 consensus to take the workshop out of town.
376

377 Mr. Smith suggested waiting until Ms. Kohlmann was present. Mayor Samples said that could do
378 that. Mr. Smith said the proposed dates could be kept, and then a decision could be made about going
379 out of town when all members were present.
380

381 Mayor Samples said no one had a problem with the dates; that had already been decided. The
382 issue of whether to go out of town should be presented at the next meeting.
383

384 **7. BUSINESS.**

385 **A. Welcome Sign at Melody Lane, Administrator Fellner.**

386 Ms. Fellner believed most everyone noticed that the welcome sign on the south end was down,
387 because it was destroyed by a motorist. A decision paper was presented, a copy of which is on file, in
388 which she asked council to determine whether it would prefer to replace the existing sign or move forward
389 with the recently presented new style signs. The sign was irreparable, and was not insured. The
390
391

392 motorist's insurance company was contacted regarding payment for replacement cost which was
393 estimated at \$3 to \$5 thousand. Options include not replacing the sign; buy a new sign in the old design,
394 if the South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) will allow a sign to be placed there because
395 it was not far enough off the roadway, which was why the sign on Glenns Bay Road was never replaced.
396 Staff asked SCDOT whether a sign could be placed in the median; the sign would have to be in ratio to
397 the median size, which might result in a very small sign. SCDOT will be involved in the sign placement,
398 regardless of the decision.
399

400 Mayor Samples asked if he understood correctly that SCDOT had to approve the town's sign.
401 Ms. Fellner said yes, because technically the sign was gone; it was no longer there, and the town would
402 be replacing it. She thought SCDOT might be okay with a sign; Tim Collins seemed to indicate that they
403 might be okay, but a definite yes had not been given.
404

405 Ms. Fellner continued saying that council could replace the sign, or collect and apply the
406 insurance proceeds to the purchase of future sign. She recommended that staff collect and apply the
407 insurance funds towards a future design, not recreate the old sign, since Town Council recently
408 expressed considerable interest in replacing the old welcome signs on Highway 17, because that would
409 be the most logical and cost effective solution for the town. Ms. Fellner said she could not tell them how
410 many compliments she had received about the welcome signs, since the lattice was taken off them. So
411 many people have taken time to call her or send an email message saying how much better the signs
412 look.
413

414 Mr. Smith moved to suspend the rules to allow discussion. Mr. Johnson seconded. All voted in
415 favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**
416

417 Mr. Smith thought the sign that was destroyed should be replaced. The first reason was to
418 establish the town's right to place a sign there. He did not want to let a lot of time elapse and SCDOT say
419 there has been nothing there for three or four months, and therefore, you must reapply. That was why
420 they need to stay with the current design.
421

422 Mr. Stevens asked if it was correct that the town had already budgeted for two new signs. Ms.
423 Fellner said not exactly. There were funds allocated for signage at the pier, way finding signage, plus
424 welcome signs or for whatever council decides to apportion that. Mr. Stevens asked if new signs would
425 replace current signs. Ms. Fellner said that was what was discussed. Mr. Stevens said since there were
426 no signs on Glenns Bay Road and South Ocean Boulevard, if the two old signs be placed in those
427 locations, if new signs were approved. Ms. Fellner said that could be done; however, it would not comply
428 with the branding concept that was presented. However, it was up to council to decide.
429

430 Mayor Samples agreed with Mr. Smith, and said the town should move as rapidly as it can to
431 replace the sign.
432

433 Mr. Smith moved to reconvene regular session. Ms. Dodge seconded. All voted in favor.
434 **MOTION CARRIED.**
435

436 Mr. Smith moved that the sign be replaced at Melody Lane and Highway 17 with the existing
437 design and that it be done as soon as possible. Ms. Mabry seconded. All voted in favor. **MOTION**
438 **CARRIED.**
439

440 **B. Public Works – Capital Replacement, Administrator Fellner.**

441
442 Ms. Fellner presented the decision paper, a copy of which is on file. She explained that the 2001
443 Chevy S10 pickup truck used by the grounds department was in poor condition. The proposal was to
444 purchase a 2013 Ford F150 pickup truck through state contract. The replacement was part of the capital
445 replacement plan, and would avoid costly and continuous repairs to the old truck. Town Council agreed
446 at two budget meetings that the purchase was justified if the expenditure was predominantly funded
447 through the sale of the existing vehicle and the grader. The state contract price for the vehicle was

448 \$18,224. The grader sold for \$17,000 with a net to the town of \$15,500, because GovDeals receives a
449 portion of the sale price. The 2001 truck is expected to sell for \$2,000, which would net the town \$1,800,
450 so the anticipated shortfall would be around \$900. The truck purchase would be predominately funded
451 through sale of those two items. Ms. Fellner said that the purchase would require a budget amendment,
452 because the expenditure was not currently in the Fiscal Year 2013-2014 adopted budget. The grader
453 sold during the last budget year, and it would have to be a budget amendment.
454

455 Mr. Smith moved to purchase to purchase a 2013 Ford F150 pickup truck on state contract for
456 \$18,224 to replace the 2001 Chevy S10 pickup used by grounds. Ms. Mabry seconded.
457

458 Mr. Smith asked if the budget amendment would show \$18,224 expense and no compensating
459 revenue, because the grader was sold in last year's budget. Ms. Fellner said yes, sir.
460

461 All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**
462

463 **C. Committee Appointment – Construction Board of Adjustment and Appeals, David**
464 **Morrison, Councilmember Smith (may be deferred until after executive session.)**
465

466 Mr. Smith moved to appoint Mr. David Morrison to the Construction Board of Adjustment and
467 Appeals. Mr. Stevens seconded.
468

469 Mr. Smith said he met with Mr. Morrison and he believed that he would be able to make a
470 justifiable decision if he served on that board, and would come to the correct conclusions.
471

472 Mayor Samples said especially if there was a need to convene the committee, because no one
473 can remember ever having done so.
474

475 All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**
476

477 **8. DISCUSSION – Any matters of concern or information to be discussed by Town**
478 **Council.**
479

480 Mr. Stevens had received an email message from an out of town neighbor that said he had to
481 park a couple of blocks back from the ocean, because of parking meters. He brought this up, because he
482 wanted to get feedback from the people. He wanted to know what the people think. He believed the
483 individual was 70 years old, and he felt bad because he could not park in the parking meter area. Mr.
484 Stevens said in his opinion, there are Surfside residents here every day that pay around \$1,000 in real
485 estate taxes, and probably have at least two vehicles, so they pay property taxes on them.
486

487 Mayor Samples apologized for interrupting, and said he was aware of the email message, as he
488 was the one that sent it to the councilmembers. If Mr. Stevens wanted to discuss the policy matter
489 involved, he should go ahead. Otherwise, it sounded like he was making council comments.
490

491 Mr. Stevens said he brought this up for discussion, and possibly to look at this, because the new
492 laws passed that allow golf carts to drive into town from four miles away. He thought the parking
493 committee had discussed this. There are over 30 major subdivisions within four miles of the pier. He
494 wanted council to consider whether to allow the out of town neighbors to park free as many of them have
495 requested free parking. He said because tax payers that pay taxes here elect them and some pay five
496 times the amount of taxes, because they own rental property. Mr. Stevens wanted this discussed so
497 council could say either yea or nay, because he did not think it was good to keep bouncing the issue
498 around. Council needs to take care of the residents. He reiterated his desire that council address the
499 situation and resolve it.
500

501 Ms. Dodge thought this was discussed before. She said people do come in from out of town
502 driving their golf carts. If they park their golf carts, and they are not residents of the Town of Surfside
503 Beach, she was sorry, and did not want to be nasty, but in her opinion, they park at a meter and they pay

504 to park. Town residents pay taxes; the people from outside of town do not. We support the town; we
505 make it a good place for them to come, and she could not see that paying a parking meter is going to
506 break somebody. Ms. Dodge said that was her personal feeling.

507
508 Ms. Mabry asked what the direction was; is there a direction?

509
510 Mayor Samples said there was none. This was just discussion.

511
512 Ms. Mabry said so there would not be any action; this was just discussion.

513
514 **9. PUBLIC COMMENTS – General Comments (5 minutes.)**

515
516 "Tom Dodge, 15th Avenue North. I drive a '97 Chevy S10. I bought it at a used car lot. We don't
517 seem to buy anything used. Every car dealer has a used car lot. For the people that live out of town that
518 are crying in their beer over not being able to park in this town for free, the easiest solution is for them to
519 sell their house and move to Surfside Beach. Otherwise, quit your bawling. We don't need them here, if
520 they don't want to pay their fair share, and their fair share is a dollar an hour in a parking meter. Tell 'em
521 to stop whining. Move here, if you like. We'll welcome you with open arms. Thank you."

522
523 "Peggy Sattelmeyer, 13th Avenue North. Most of you after your discussion tonight, I noticed, have
524 looked and seen Garden City's new welcome sign, and you've also probably seen the new beautification
525 projects in the center that they have down in Garden City in the medians of Highway 17. What I'm
526 wondering is why an unincorporated area with no town council and no tax base has been able to install
527 new signage and a Highway 17 median beautification project superior to what we have been able to do.
528 I'm also wondering if their gonna be paving their highway before we do. Thank you."

529
530 "Hi you doing? Tim Courtney, 1416 Poplar Drive South. I'd like to begin with this golf cart
531 parking and people coming in to use our town beaches. As a resident here, we pay taxes here. We pay
532 to clean up the beach. We pay to dump their garbage. We provide water. We provide bathrooms for
533 these people and there should be no reason why they shouldn't be asked to pay for parking. That's one
534 of the benefits to why we got parking meters in the town to begin with. On another note, I'd like to thank
535 our police department and the fire department for a great job. We've seen a lot of police presence in our
536 area, which is 15th South and Poplar. The other thing, the program with the fire chief, I think it's great.
537 We encourage this council (***) for the youth. My children are growing up here, and they're gonna be here
538 for the rest of their lives. I ask you to support the programs in the police and fire. That's all I have to say
539 tonight. Thank you."

540
541 "Cathy Andreas, 14th Avenue North and 8th Avenue South. It wasn't Mark's wife who bit a hole in
542 it (*holding up an agenda.*) So anyway, I really appreciate all the thought that you put into things, and I
543 believe that you can think here or there, and I really think that we owe the media a lot of thank you [sic]
544 for their coverage for everything tonight. Thank you all."

545
546 **10. COUNCIL COMMENTS.**

547
548 Ms. Mabry: "I would like to thank our police department and our fire department for working well
549 with other departments, but warts and all, we are still the best municipality in the State of South Carolina.
550 There is nobody that does it better than we do, and it's okay that we don't always get it right. Eventually,
551 we do. So, I want to thank our fire department and our police department. They're outstanding. We're
552 fortunate. Our staff as a whole, we are blessed, and it's nice living in paradise every day. Thank you for
553 coming out." (*Applause*)

554
555 Mr. Johnson: "Thank you, Mr Mayor. First, I would like to congratulate Bill and Alicia Klouser for
556 getting the yard of the month award. I'm just glad that they don't give a worst yard of the month award.
557 (*Laughter*) I would probably win that one. But also, as far as the median goes in, in Garden City, I think if
558 you ask Councilman Paul Price, you might get some answers. But, from what I understand, I think some

559 of the business community pitched in a lot of money for that. That's just the vicious rumor on the street.
560 Thank you for coming out. God bless you, and I'll, we will see you next time."
561

562 Ms. Dodge: "I just want to thank the citizens of this town for the efforts that they put forth in every
563 way possible to make our town better. You do a darn good job, and I will say that we have relatives and
564 friends coming to visit, and they are so impressed with our town, I keep telling them move here when you
565 retire, and they probably will, because of the people of the town, because of the way the town is run. I'm
566 very proud to be a citizen here, and I'm also proud to serve you on council." *(Applause)*
567

568 Mr. Smith: "Thanks to the police department and the fire department. I attended the police
569 academy. I appreciate that, and I went to the senior night on, at the fire department, and I appreciate
570 that, so, and your cooperation with that rescue was real good, so thank you very much."
571

572 Mr. Stevens: "Thank y'all for coming out. I wanted to say I agree with Mr. Dodge and the
573 gentleman, I didn't catch your name, up front, but people from outside town they can pay a dollar. I pay a
574 dollar when I go to Charleston, and any other place, so. We owe the taxpayers that, that free sticker,
575 that's the people that pay. As far as this town, this is a great town. Glad I moved here. I told my
576 daughter, and she said when back years ago that we were gonna be living here one day, and now we
577 are. I have to commend the citizens of this town. There's a lot of good volunteers in this town. They
578 volunteer for planning and zoning. I see a couple of 'em names up here. Parking committee, senior
579 citizens committee, all the different committees. These are great people, and hopefully, they'll be our
580 future leaders and be sitting up here. So, I thank all those people. I (***) that I live in the United States of
581 America where we have a constitution and you can get up here and you can speak your mind, if you want
582 to, and say whatever you want to say. That's what's great about this country and I'm glad in, in America.
583 I'm glad I live in Surfside Beach. I want to say that the next police academy, I'm gonna be there.
584 Councilman Smith told me about it. My wife has told me about it. I gotta be there. She said it's the most
585 exciting thing she ever did, and I recommend that everybody in town, if you haven't done it, go do it.
586 Thank you for coming out. I see a lot of good, great citizens sitting out in that audience. Thank you."
587

588 Mayor Samples: "I do want to talk a little bit about the parking meters. We are gonna do an
589 evaluation. The council was committed to evaluate at the end of the season how they're working and are
590 they generating revenue. The email that was talked about earlier, cause I just like people to know what it
591 said, the, the poor old fella who doesn't live in paradise here in Surfside Beach wasn't talking about free
592 parking. He, he suggested, he just wanted to know if there was another system, you know, that we might
593 consider. That's all that was about, and I know it's even been talked about in the parking committee
594 where they talked about selling decals. Now, they elected not to. Again, at the end of the season we're
595 actually gonna have real numbers, okay, and rather than shut the door on something, I just tend to
596 believe you need to analyze it, think about it, and, and, and consider it. That's all, that's all I'm
597 suggesting. I don't feel strongly one way or another. I want to remind members, we are gonna have the
598 workshop on the comprehensive plan and I'm gonna keep reminding you; please go through the draft
599 comprehensive plan so that we don't have to start from square one, okay. Sometimes that's why maybe
600 we have lots of meetings is because maybe we didn't do homework somewhere else. I appreciate all the
601 work that everybody's doing. I think that, I hope that the businesses had a great summer. We'll find out.
602 We'll find out [sic.]"
603

604 **11. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

605
606 **A. Pursuant to FOIA §30-4-70(a)(2) Pursuant to FOIA §30-4-70(a)(1) to discuss**
607 **employment, appointment, compensation, promotion, demotion, discipline, or release of an**
608 **employee.**
609

610 **B. Pursuant to FOIA §30-4-70(a)(1) to discuss the appointment of a person to a public**
611 **body (Addressed in Business Item 7.C.)**
612

613 Mr. Smith moved to enter executive session at 8:08 p.m. Mr. Stevens seconded. All voted in
614 favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**

615
616
617
618
619
620
621
622
623
624
625
626
627
628
629
630
631
632
633
634
635
636
637
638
639
640
641
642
643
644
645
646
647
648
649
650
651
652
653
654
655
656

Mr. Smith moved to reconvene regular session at 8:28 p.m. Ms. Dodge seconded. All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**

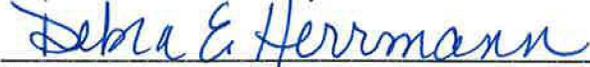
Mayor Samples said that no action was taken during executive session.

Mr. Smith moved to authorize the town administrator to take the appropriate personnel action as discussed. Mr. Johnson seconded. All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**

12. ADJOURNMENT.

Mr. Smith moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:29 p.m. Ms. Mabry seconded. All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Prepared and submitted by,



Debra E. Herrmann, CMC, Town Clerk

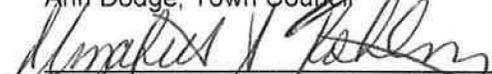
Approved: September 24, 2013

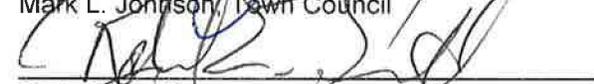

Douglas F. Samples, Mayor

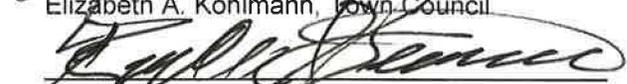

Mary Beth Mabry, Mayor Pro Tempore


Ann Dodge, Town Council


Mark L. Johnson, Town Council


Elizabeth A. Kohlmann, Town Council


Roderick E. Smith, Town Council


Randle M. Stevens, Town Council

Clerk's Note: This document constitutes minutes of the meeting that was audio taped. These are detailed minutes documenting each member's comments. Appointments to hear audio tapes may be scheduled with the town clerk. In accordance with FOIA, meeting notice and the agenda were distributed to local media and interested parties. The agenda was posted on the town website, the entry door at Town Council Chambers, and in the Town Hall reception area. Meeting notice was also posted on the Town marquee. Public Comments and Town Council Comments are transcribed as close to verbatim as possible. When (**) is used a section of the tape is inaudible.